



MEDIA RELEASE

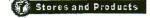


Board Information

Alcohol Education



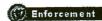




Contact Information



Laws and Rules



SUNDAY SALES BEGIN SEPT. 4 IN 20 STATE LIQUOR STORES

August 19, 2005

(OLYMPIA) - Twenty state liquor stores will participate in a two-year pilot program beginning Sept. 4, 2005 to determine if Sunday sales are economically feasible. The Sunday sales pilot program was established by House Bill 1379, passed by the 2005 Legislature.

A list of the state stores chosen to participate in the program is included with this news release. It also will be posted on the Liquor Control Board's website – www.liq.wa.gov – along with a copy of the bill, the bill's fiscal note and two fact sheets included at the bottom of this release.

The 20 state stores will open from noon to 5 p.m. except on Sundays falling on state holidays. The fiscal note for the Sunday Sales bill estimated that opening 20 state stores on Sundays would increase the Liquor Control Board's annual gross sales by \$3.87 million in FY 06 and \$5.68 million FY 07.

The Sunday sales legislation authorized the Board to select stores with the greatest Sunday revenue potential based on current retail sales levels, population density, proximity to shopping centers, and proximity to other businesses open on Sunday.

The pilot program will compare the expense of opening stores on Sunday to the amount of additional sales generated. It also will measure whether Sunday sales negatively impact sales in state and contract stores near the 20 pilot stores. A final report on the project is due to the Legislature Jan. 31, 2007.

Facts State Stores CLS Stores Bill Fiscal Note

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For more information, please contact Sharon Michael.



11/30/2005